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PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 04329.1952-01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Yoshitaka Tsunashima et al.) Group Art Unit: 2814
)
Application No.: 09/688,989) Examiner: S. Rao
)
Filed: October 17, 2000)
)
For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND)
METHOD OF MANUFACTURING)
THE SAME)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(c), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the events recited in Section 1.97(b) but, to the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of either a Final action, Quayle action, or a Notice of Allowance. Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement includes a statement as specified by Section 1.97(e).

Statement: Each document listed in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in an Action from the Japanese Patent Office dated June 3, 2003 in counterpart Japanese Application No. 98/185453, and this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the mailing date of that communication.

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Copies of the listed documents, the Japanese Patent Office Action dated June 3, 2003, and an English language translation of the Japanese Patent Office Action are attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

In lieu of a statement of relevance or translation of the non-English documents, the English language translation of the Action from the Japanese Patent Office in the counterpart application citing these documents and setting forth the relevance thereof is submitted.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed document is material or constitutes "prior art." If the Examiner applies the document as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicants determine that the cited document does not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of the document.


Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should the document be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: July 18, 2003

By: 
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Atty. Docket No.	04329.1952-01	Appln. No.	09/688,989
Applicant	Yoshitaka Tsunashima et al.		
Filing Date	October 17, 2000	Group:	2814

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
2-3244	01/1990	Japan			No
3-184368	08/1991	Japan			No
4-123439	04/1992	Japan			No
6-232152	08/1994	Japan			No
8-213481	08/1996	Japan			No
8-264531	10/1996	Japan			No

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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Examiner	Date Considered
*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	
Form PTO 1449	Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce